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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS.

ANNUAL REPORT

On the Health of

BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT .

For the Year 1958

Report presented by

The Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector.

Braughing Rural District

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BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report on the Health of the District for the Year 1958.

INDEX					
	Page				
PREFACE	4 - 6				
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - Staff - Committee	7				
SECTION A.					
GENERAL STATISTICS Etc:					
Population Area in Acres No. of inhabited Houses Rateable Value Product on Penny Rate	8				
VITAL STATISTICS Etc:					
Births and Birth Rate	9 - 11				
INFECTIOUS DISEASES - Prevalence and Control	12 - 14				
DEATHS - Cause of, during 1958	15				
SECTION B GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES					
Laboratory Service, County Council Health) Services, Hospital, Medical and Dental) Services, Other Services.)	16 - 17				
SECTION C SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA	10.00				
Report of the Public Health Inspector	1929				
SECTION D FACTORIES ACTS - Summary of Return	33				



EAST HERTS COMBINED DISTRICTS.

Annual Report on the Health of the Braughing Rural District for the Year 1958.

ERRATUM

Page 5. Vital Statistics line one

For "The total number of live births "was six more" please read " was six <u>less</u>".

G.M.FRIZELLE
Medical Officer of Health

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and

The total number of live births was six more than that for 1957 while the total number of deaths at all ages exceeded the 1957 figure by twelve. This, together with the normal inward and outward movement of the population will explain the fact that the estimated midyear population was ten less than that of 1957. There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Cause of Death.

Coronary disease together with other diseases of the heart and circulation accounted for 40.6 per cent of the total deaths in 1958.

Unfortunately the deaths from heart disease in England and Wales are increasing steadily and are the largest of all the causes of death. In the last three years the deaths from coronary, disease alone have risen from 74,790 to 76,324 to 84,048. The death rate is heaviest in men engaged in the professional occupations. While no single cause has been discovered, it is generally accepted that insufficient exercise, incorrect diet, overwork, mental strain and and excessive smoking are important aetiological factors.

In recent years many lives have been saved by the use of anti-coagulant drugs. Prevention, however, is better than cure and much suffering and expense could be avoided by a change if our eating and exercise habits and where possible the avoidance of strain and overwork, especially from middle age onwards.

Infectious Disease.

There is little to note in the sphere of infectious diseases. In the whole year there were only 70 cases of Measles. Measles generally occur in biennial waves and, as was anticipated the 1958 figures were low. There were no cases of Food Poisoning or Sonne' Dysentery.

Poliomyelitis.

An increasing number of inoculations against Poliomyelitis were carried out during 1958, In this local Doctors greatly assisted the County Health Authorities by inoculating patients in their own surgeries.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-1957.

No legal action was necessary under these Regulations but at the instigation of the Public Health Inspector many improvements were effected in food premises.

National Assistance Acts, 1948-1951.

No action was required under section 47 for the removal of persons in need of care and attention.

Housing.

Thirty three new dwellings were erected during 1958, twenty of which were constructed by the Council.

I am,

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

GORDON M.FRIZELLE.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

R.P. GARROW, M.D., D.P. (Temporary M.O.H. 1.1.58 to 31.12.58).

Gordon M. FRIZELLE, T.D., M.D., D.P.H. (M.O.H. since 1.1.59).

Central Office: Council Offices,
High Street,
HODDESDON, Herts.

Telephone: Office:- Hoddesdon 3061
Private:- Hertford 2150

Deputy (Part-time) Medical Officer of Health.

Peter de Bec TURTLE, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., B.G., D.P.H. Haileybury and Imperial Service College, Hertford. Telephone Hoddesdon 2040.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

Senior Public Health Inspector. (Also Surveyor): E.E.WATERIDGE.
Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Public Health Inspector: N.A. SHUTES. Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Clerical Duties in the Public Health Department are in charge of MISS. D. KENT.

Public Health Department :-

Bridgefoot House,
BUNTINGFORD,
Herts.
Telephone: - Buntingford 315/6.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee, for the Session 1958/1959 was Councillor MR. L.A.C. HELMER.

The Public Health Committee is composed of all the Members of the Council.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS 1958.

(Table 1)

(Figures for 1957 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION.

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Braughing Rural District

(10,440) 10,430

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres ... 45,570

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books:

(3,457) 3,484

Number of Houses per acre ... 0.07

Number of Persons per acre ... 0.2

Number of Persons per house... 2.99

Rateable Value of District ... £87,433

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate ... £343

_____0000

VITAL STATISTICS.

(Table 2)

(Figures for 1957 are shown in brackets)

LIVE BIRTHS	Tot	al	14	15	(151)		
Live Birth Rate per 1,000	13.	90	(14.89)				
Area Comparability Factor	for B	irths	1.0)3	(1.03)		
Standardised Live Birth F	-	er oulation	16.	4	(16.1)		
STILL BIRTHS.	Tot	al		2	(4)		
Still-birth rate per 1,00		and still-	13.	6	(25.80)		
BIRTHS Total Live and Still-	-births	3	147	7	(155)		
			Male	Female	Total		
Live Births, Total number	?		75	70	145		
Legitimate			71	67	138		
Illegitimate	e		4	3	7		
Still-Births, Total Number	2		1	1	2		
Legitimate			1	1	2		
Illegitimate	Э		-	-	-		
Illegitimate Live Births		ent of total births	live		4.82		

COMPARISON RATES.

	Braughing Rural District	Hertford England & Wales.
Live Birth Rate	13.90	17.89
Area Comparability Factor	1.03	0.93
Standardised Birth Rate	16.40	16.64. 16.40
Still-Birth Rate	13.60	19.51 21.60

Vital Statistics. Table 2 continued

INFANT DEATHS	Male	Female	Total.
Infants under one year, Total	2	4	6
Legitimate Illegitimate	2	4 -	6
Neo Natal Mortality (first four weeks) (included above in total of infant deaths of under one year) Total	2	4	6
Legitimate Illegitimate	2	4	6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births Total	41.	37 (7	9•47)
Legitimate Illegitimate	43	47	
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live births(first four weeks)	41.	.37 (2	16 • 35)
MATERNAL DEATHS.			
Maternal Deaths, including abortion	N	[L	(NIL)
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	_		-

COMPARISON RATES.

COMPARISON RATES.	Braughing Rural District	Hertford County	England & Wales
Infant Mortality Rate	41.37	16.45	22,5
Legitimate Illegitimate	43 • 47 -	16.5 16.6	
Neo Natal Mortality Rate	41.37	11.46	16.2
Maternal Mortality Rate	-	0.43	0.43

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Vital Statistics. Table 2 continued.

DEATHS

Total Deaths of all ages	128	(116)
Males	61	(53)
Females	67	(58)
Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.69	(10.84)
Area Comparability Factor for Deaths	0.91	(0.89)
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 Population.	11.16	(9.88)

COMPARISON RATES.

Ru	raughing ral District	Hertford County	England & Wales.
Death Rate	11.69	9.65.	
Area Comparability Factor	0.91	1.07	
Standardised Death Rate	11.16	10.33	_11.7

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INSECTIOUS DISEASES .

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the Year.

Disease	Total all Ages for the Year	Under 1	1	5 -	15 -	25 -	Over 65 -	Not known
Ecarlet_Fever	6	~	3	3	-	-	•	-
Measles	70	1	26	41	1	1	5 -13	H
Pneumonia	7	-	↔	1	jes	3	3	-
Jaundi ce	2		\$=	2	6-10	6	•	-
Erysipelas	1	_			\$-4	•	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	,	-	1	_	•	

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS.

		First Quart	t er		Secor Quar			Third arter			urth artei	r
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov	Dec.
Measles	17	13	21	6	1	3	1	6	1	-	•	1
Pneumonia	4	~	-	-	1	~	~		1	1		_
Jaundice	1	1	-	-	4-4	•-	-		~		-	-
Erysipelas	1.	-	••	1 1							-	•••
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	1.	6-49		••		4
Puerperal Pyrexia	-		***	-	_	-	•••		••	1		-

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES AMONG THE DIFFERENT PARISHES.

Parigh	Measles	Pneum ⊶onia	Jaund- ice	Erysip- elas	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia.
Albury		-	1	-		1
Anstey	-	gardy.			-	•
Aspenden	-				6~4	~
Ardeley	2	₩	949	-	-	dans)
Braughing	1	3	1	-	-	-
Brent Pelham	•	pro-		~	₩	-
Buckland		₩	•••	-	-	
Buntingford	1	~	_	~	-	direk.
Furneux Pelham	12	~	que.	~	0+0	de-th
Cottered	→	de-sp	-	⊷	ware	Pre
Hormead	3	₩		6=6	•••	_
High Wych	27	-		p=4	1	•••
Little Hadham	-			Annig	010	-
Much Hadham	11	4	_	1	5	•••
Meesden	-		-	•••	_	-
Stocking Pelham	3	900	~	_	-	-
Thorley	4	amb	general a	0+0	₩	•••
Westmill	6	~	~		OM	_
Wyddial	-	prob	-	-	-	-

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES - Continued - Prevention of Illness -Poliomyelitis Inoculations.

The Hertfordshire County Council carried out a series of inoculations against poliomyelitis during the year, at Buntingford and other centres convenient to residents of the Braughing Rural District.

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS ETC. DURING 1958 :-

The year commenced with 70 names upon the Tuberculosis Register :-

		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary.
	Males:	26	7
	Females:	23	14
Seven	cases were notified fo	r the first	time:-
	Males:	5	0
	Females:	1	1
There	were 3 inward tramsfer	s from othe:	r areas:-
	Males	2	0
	Females.	1	0
Five	patients left the Dist	rict (outwa:	rd transfers)
	Males:	2	0
	Females:	2	1
Three	patients were pronounc	ed CURED:-	
	Males:	2	1
	Females:	0	0
The :	year therefore ended wi	th 72 cases	on the Register :-
	Males:	29	6
	Temales:	23	14

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1958.

Line	e No.				M	F
12345678901214167890122222222333333333 (a)	Bronchitis Other diseases of respiratory Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum Gastritis, enteritis and diarri Nephritis and nephrosis Hyperplasia of prostate Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion Congenital malformations Other defined and ill-defined of Motor vehicle accidents	neoplasms vstem se system hoea			61000000000130090165122155001110022100	6700000000413271089162030001100291110
(b) (c)	Deaths of infants under four we four weeks to	eks of age one year o	f age	• • •	1 2 0	1 4 0

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In emergency, certain (Medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford, or the Herts. and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES.

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, are available for Braughing Area. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres.

Number of Nurses (equivalent full time) $3\frac{1}{2}$

Welfare Centre 3 (Mobile Clinic).

Vaccinations, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations.

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centres will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxia free of charge.

Home and Domestic Help.

Applications for this Service should be addressed to the Local Organiser at 27, Bulls Plain, Hertford (Telephone: Hertford 3232) or 25a, Portland Road, Bishop's Stortford (Telephone: Bishop's Stortford 332).

A charge may be made for this Service, in accordance with the County Council's assessment scale.

Care and After Care.

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. Medical Loan Depots have been established at Braughing, Buntingford and Much Hadham.

A charge may be made for both the above services.

Ambulance Service.

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford (Telephone: Hertford 2222) at Bishop's Stortford (Telephone: Bishop's Stortford 1101), and Ware (Telephone: Ware 441). Except in emergency an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

Day Nurseries.

There are no Day Nurseries in the Braughing Rural District.

Mental Health.

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Divisional Welfare Officer, Mr.J.H. Webster, Collett Road, Ware, Herts; (Telephone: WARE 541).

Help in respect of Mentally Defective persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer.

An Occupation Centre for defective children has been e stablished in Hertford.

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

The Area is served chiefly by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford, and the Herts and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

Chronic Sick can receive hospital treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware.

All the above beds are managed by the Hertford Group Hospital Management Committee within the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

Western House also provides beds under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, on behalf of the Hertfordshire County Council.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICES.

There are 4 doctors in the area. Practitioners from adjoining areas also have some patients in Braughing Rural District.

DENTAL SERVICE.

There are no Dentists resident in the Area. The District is served by Dentists in adjoining localities.

OTHER SERVICES.

There is a Club for Old People at Buntingford.

Women's Institutes are active at 15 centres in the District.



SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1958.

WATER SUPPLY.

Source of Supply.

There is a piped supply in each of the 19 Parishes.

Thirteen of these are supplied from Chipping Pumping Station.

Out of the remaining 6 Parishes, Thorley and High Wych are supplied from the Herts and Essex Water Company,

Leaving the two Hadhams, Albury and Braughing which are supplied from Standon in the Ware Rural District.

Quality of Water Supply.

Bacteriological.

Samples of Water taken each month from the Chipping

Pumping Station were subjected to bacteriological test, and the

report on each sample was satisfactory.

PARISH	TYPE O WATER IN HOUSE	F WATER SUPPLY OUTSIDE SUPPLY (STANDPIPE)	WELLS
Albury	184	11	1
Anstey	75	17	16
Ardeley	106	19	11
Aspenden	76	944	-
Braughing	199	112	4
Brent Pelham	56	4	4
Buckland	99	10	1
Buntingford	547	57	1
Cottered	153	14	2
Furneux Pelham	116	18	5
High Wych	136	19	37
Hormead	204	3	gard.
Little Hadham	239	31	₩
Meesden	37	4	↔
Much Hadham	608	36	1
Stocking Pelham	39	5	M
Thorley	(3	5	-
Westmill	64	7	15
Wyddial	27	14	1
Total 1958	3028	386	99
Total 1957	2982	392	99

SEWERAGE AND SITE OF DISPOSAL .

CESSPOOLS.

During the year 1409 emptyings were carried out.

The Scheme of providing one free emptying enables the demand on this service to be met with little delay.

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS.

A Ministry enquiry has been held regarding the proposed Sewage disposal scheme for the parishes of Much Hadham and Little Hadham, and it is hoped that some definite action will be possible during the year 1959. Extreme difficulties are experienced on the existing disposal area and it is virtually impossible to prevent discharge of crude sewage to the River Ash.

It is proposed to construct a new sewage treatment plant at Cradle End, Little Hadham, early in the year 1959, to deal with the flow of sewage from twelve properties.

A proposed sewage disposal scheme for the village of Cottered has been approved by the Ministry and constructional works will commence during 1959. A similar proposal for the village of High Wych has also been submitted to the Ministry.

The sewerage and sewage disposal schemes for Braughing will be commenced early in 1959.

Various soakaway improvements have been made to existing septic tank installations on Council Housing Estates the work being carried out by the Council's mobile team. All the plants serving isolated groups of Council properties are being serviced regularly as a result of the increase in the labour force and the analytical reports of the Lee Conservancy Catchment Board have all been favourable.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

Meat inspection took place at the 3 licensed slaughterhouses in the District, situated at Buntingford (2) and Braughing (1) with the following results:-

Total Number of Carcases Inspected 1660

Meat Condemned as Unfit

Home Killed 352 lbs

The carcase of one steer was found to be affected with C.Bovis and ordered to be frozen.

	Steers	Heifers	Cows and Bulls	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Rams and Ewes	Pigs	Sows and Boars	T O T A L
Animals Slaughtered (if known)	148	30	4	41	955	19	459	4	1660
Animals inspected	148	30	4	41	955	19	459	4	1660
Condemned for I other than T.B.		is.							
Whole Carcase	-	-	-	-	•	₩	1	-	1
Weight			-	-	-	-	110	ank	110 1bs.
Part or Organ	16	ı		-	2		4		23
Weight	158	1	-	•	3		12	**	174 1bs.

	Steers	Heifers	Cows and Bulls	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Rams and Ewes	Pigs	Sows and Boars	7 O T A L
Condemned for	Tubercu	losis.							
Whole Carcase	200	₩		-			•	9=6	5-4
Weight	-		_	_	quiq			-	um
Part or Organ	1	-	biog	-	-	_	5		6
Weight	9	umb	-	-		****	54	-	63 1bs.
Condemned for	Cystice	rcus Bov	is.						
Whole Carcase F	l rozen	-		-	-	_	-	⊷ ፲	l rozen
Weight	9446	***	-	***	_	-		-	944
Part or Organ	1	ga4	j-a	p=4	-	-	-		1
Weight	5	Samp)	••			•	***	***	5 lbs

OTHER FOODS.

The following foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption :-

- 18 Packets various type biscuits
- 13 Christmas puddings.

The following articles were found to be unfit for sale :-

- 6 Packets Soap Powder.
- 72 Tablets soap.
- 22 Packets soap pads.
- 30 Packets paper handkerchiefs.
- 17 Packets Toilet Rolls.
- 12 Packetts cat food.
- 12 Packets Various dog foods.

PARTICULARS OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Public Health.	
Drainage Inspections and Tests Cesspools Sewage Disposal Installations Keeping of Animals	21 13 191 26 7
Housing.	
Inspections Housing Act Reinspections Housing Act Visits re overcrowding Visits and Inspections under the Rent Act	29 113 1 2t 7
Refuse Collection.	
Visits to Premises	110 49
Meat and Other Foods.	
Inspections of Meat Inspections of Food Premises Inspections of Bakehouses Inspections of Unsound Food	423 15
Licensed Premises.	
Inspections re cleanliness, conveniences	s etc. 5
Sampling.	
Milk samples taken Water samples taken Ice Cream samples taken Milk Containers	105
<u>Dairies.</u> Inspections of Dairies	. 5
Total carried forw	mard 1139

	ı	otal	Product 5 :	iorw ar d	l	·	1139	
Moveable Dwell:	ings.							
	Inspections	of Tents	s, Vans and	l Sheds	5 •••	•••	49	
actories Act.								
	Inspections of Inspection of Insp	of Facto	ries with	hout Po	ower	• • •	NIL 8	
		kers-pre	emises)		• • •	• • •	4	
Council Houses								
	Inspections of Applic	of premi				•••	135 4	
Miscellaneous.								
	Farm Premises Premises Disi Infectious di Rodent Contro Disinfestatio premis Inspections a Building Insp Appointments Unfounded con Other success	infected isease for and for and for ses under Personal with Orangel in the ses and for a f	dinvestigatinspection etroleum for where the second is the second in the second is the second in the	ns Vern	ninous	•••	3 4 10 326 10 7 264 71 5	
	Unsuccessful	visits			•••	•••	104	
			To	otal .	• • •	• • •	2171	
						•		

Telephone Calls made and Received ...

Premises Disinfected

250

HOUSING PROGRESS 1958.

By Private Enterpirse.

New Dwellings erected

13

By the Council.

New Dwellings erected

20

Total Property Controlled by the Council on 31st December, 1958.

Council Houses

797

Sundries

49

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949, were made in respect of schemes for improvement of 10 properties.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

MILK SAMPLES.

During the year 106 routine samples of milk were submitted to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory for methylene blue and phosphatase tests. ALL samples passed the test.

Three milk containers were submitted on four occassions for examination. The first three sets were found to be unsatisfactory, but the last set were found to be highly satisfactory.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

RODENT CONTROL.

Two part-time Rodent Operatives were employed by the Council, until October, 1958, after which time a full time operative was employed.

The Council offer free treatment of rodent infestations at Private households, but a charge is made for treating Trade or Business premises Contracts being signed for Farm Premises and unexpired contracts were taken over from the Agricultural Executive Committee.

Routine treatments were carried out on the Council's refuse tips. Tests baits were laid in the Council's sewers at Buntingford, Cottered, High Wych and Much Hadham. Systems at Buntingford and Much Hadham were found to be infested and the necessary treatments were carried out.

During the year 166 private and 19 other properties which were inspected were found to be infested with rats and mice, and were treated by the Council's operatives.

41 Treatments were made to Farm premises.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This continues upon the basis of a fortnightly collection covering the whole District. Refuse is disposed of at the Council's tipping-sites at Buckland, Much Hadham, Braughing and Furneux Pelham.

SECTION D.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The following is a summary of information already supplied in detail to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised), in respect of the year 1958.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

-			
Factories	without	Mechanical	Power.

Number on Register
Inspections
Written Notices

Factories with Mechanical Power.

Number on Register 39
Inspections
Written Notices

Other Premises under the Act:

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building Operations, Works of Engineering Construction, but excluding Outworker's Premises).

Number on Register 2 Inspections 1 Written Notices 0

- 2. Ca es in which Defects were Found: 0
- 3. Cases in which Defects were Remedied 1

PART V111 of the Act.

OUTWORK. (Sections 110 and 111).

Line	13	Wearing Apparel (Making etc)	3
11	33	Paper Bags	1
Ħ		Making Receptacles of Paper	1